

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 OMB-01 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00

FEA-01 INT-05 AGR-05 FPC-01 CIEP-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /082 W
----- 090670

R 170730Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3444

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 4639

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, AF

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT DAOUD'S "JESHYN" SPEECH

SUMMARY. PRESIDENT DAOUD OPENED HIS "JESHYN" SEASON CELEBRATING SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF HIS FOUNDING AFGHAN REPUBLIC WITH LENGTHY SPEECH GIVEN EVENING JULY 16. MUCH OF SPEECH ECHOED PAST STATEMENTS: CALL TO SACRIFICE, NEED OF A NATIONAL IDEOLOGY, AND FORMULATION OF PAK-AFGHAN DIFFERENCES. SPEECH ALSO CONTAINED DESCRIPTION LACED WITH AFGHAN GOVERNMENT STATISTICS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF REPUBLICAN GOVERNMENT, FOLLOWED BY EVEN LONGER LIST OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS TO BE ACCOMPLISHED USING AFGHAN RESOURCES AND FOREIGN AID. AS INTERESTING AS DAOUD'S STATEMENTS, WERE SPEECH'S OMISSIONS: NO MENTION WAS MADE OF A CONSTITUTION, POLITICAL PARTIES, CABINET CHANGES OR OTHER SPECIFIC INSTITUTIONAL MATTERS. END SUMMARY.

1. PRESIDENT DAOUD INITIATED CELEBRATION OF THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE AFGHAN REPUBLIC IN A SPEECH GIVEN ON
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RADIO AFGHANISTAN EVENING JULY 16.

2. FOLLOWING CLOSELY THE POLITICAL THEMES HIS RECENT SPEECHES HAVE TAKEN (KABUL 1835,2834, AND 3390), DAOUD REMINDED AFGHANS THAT HIS "REVOLUTION OF SARETAN 26" (WHICH IS THE AFGHAN CALENDAR DATE CORRESPONDING TO JULY 17) WAS ONLY THE BEGINNING OF URGENTLY NEEDED "NATIONAL RESURRECTION". DESCRIBING AS A MAIN CAUSE OF HIS REVOLUTION THE FACT THAT PREVIOUSLY THERE HAD BEEN NO "NATIONAL AIM AND IDEOLOGY", DAOUD WENT ON TO SAY THAT A LARGE PROBLEM STILL IS THE NEED TO "REDEEM OUR COUNTRY FROM IDEOLOGICAL POVERTY." DAOUD ALSO INCLUDED HIS USUAL CALL FOR SACRIFICE: "SACRIFICE FOR FAITH AND BELIEF, SACRIFICE FOR LOVE AND ASPIRATION, AND SACRIFICE FOR PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT OF OUR HOMELAND."

3. REGARDING FOREIGN POLICY DAOUD STATED AS GUIDING PRINCIPLES USUAL FORMUOATIONS OF "NON-ALIGNMENT, INDEPENDENCE OF JUDGMENT, POSITIVE AND ACTIVE NEUTRALITY", ADHERENCE TO UNITED NATIONS PRINCIPLES, ETC. HIS MENTION OF PAKISTAN WAS RELATIVELY BRIEF AND COMPLETELY IN LINE WITH PREVIOUS STATEMENTS: PAKISTAN, HE INDICATED, IS THE ONLY COUNTRY IN THE WORLD WITH WHICH AFGHANISTAN HAS A DISPUTE. "ACHIEVEMENT OF COOPERATIVE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS DEPENDS UPON REMOVAL OF ONLY ONE BARRIER, THIS BEING THE FAILURE OF PAKISTANHHO RESTORE THE LEGAL RIGHTS OF PUSHTUN AND BALUCHI BROTHERS." DAOUD THEN CONTINUED: "LET IT BE UNDERSTOOD THAT NO SORT OF MOVEMENT, SABOTAGE OR THREAT BY THE PAKISTANI GOVERNMENT CAN CHANGE THE STAND OF AFGHANISTAN ABOUT THIS ISSUE. WE WILL (HOWEVER) WITH TOTAL GOOD WILL CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THIS ISSUE IN A PROPER AND JUST WAY."

4. THE GREATEST PART OF THE PRESIDENT'S SPPECH WAS DEVOTED TO SUMMING UP, WITH INCLUSION OF LONG TRAINS OF STATISTICS, ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE REPUBLIC IN THE ECONOMIC SPHERE. ONE PARTICULAR CITATION WAS NATIONALIZATION OF BANKS, A STEP TAKEN, ACCORDING TO DAOUD'S SPEECH "WITH RECIPROCAL MEASURES FOR DEVELOPING PRIVATE CAPITAL INVESTMENTS". AMONG OTHER STEPS MENTIONED WERE FIRST MOVES TOWARD LAND REFORM, DISTRIBUTION OF SOME LAND TO MIGRANT AND LANDLESS PEOPLE, BANNING IMPORT OF LUXURY ITEMS, AND, INCREASED PRODUCTION OF TEXTILES, OILS, MINERALS AND NATURAL GAS PLUS EXTENSIONS
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OF COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION NETWORKS. CITED ALSO WERE GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO INCREASE STATE REVENUE THROUGH REFORM OF TAXES AND TAX COLLECTION, A GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY PROGRAM FOR OIL, AND IMPROVED HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES. REGARDING INFLATION CONTROL DAOUD RECOUNTED THAT ISSUANCE OF BANKNOTES DURING THE AFGHAN YEAR WHICH ENDED MARCH 21, 1975 HAD BEEN 41.4 PERCENT LESS THAN PREVIOUS AFGHAN YEAR ENDING AT SAME PERIOD DURING 1974.

5. DAOUD PROMISED THE NATION CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT USING NATIONAL RESOURCES AND WITH FOREIGN ASSISTANCE IN LOANS AND GRANTS. DAOUD'S TABULATION OF DEVELOPMENT AID ALREADY OBTAINED BY REPUBLIC PUT AMOUNT AT ONE BILLION FOUR HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS, AND HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT MORE AID WOULD BE FORTHCOMING WHEN AFGHANISTAN IMPLEMENTS ITS SEVEN YEAR PLAN. (A "SEVEN YEAR PLAN" IS SOMETHING WE HAVE HEARD MENTIONED UNOFFICIALLY BEFORE. ONE SOURCE BELIEVES IT WILL GO INTO EFFECT IN MARCH, 1976.) DAOUD'S VERY LONG LIST OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS SPANNED VIRTUALLY EVERY GEOGRAPHICAL AREA OF AFGHANISTAN AND ALMOST EVERY KIND OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY.

6. DAOUD'S ECONOMIC SUMMARY ENDED ON A SOMBER NOTE: "BACKWARDNESS IS A HISTORIC EVENT", HE SAID, "REMOVAL OF WHICH WILL TAKE MORE TIME THAN A DAY OR EVEN YEARS."

7. OF AS MUCH INTEREST AS DAOUD'S STATEMENTS THEMSELVES WERE OMISSIONS FROM HIS SPEECH, AND IT WILL PROBABLY BE THESE WHICH ARE MORE TALKED ABOUT IN WEEKS TO COME. THOUGH EXPECTATIONS WERE NOT NEARLY SO HIGH THIS YEAR AS PAST AT SOME DRAMATIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF A CONSTITUTION, POLITICAL PARTY SYSTEM AND/OR CABINET CHANGES WOULD TAKE PLACE, STILL THERE WERE RUMORS IN THESE AREAS. DAOUD'S SPEECH APPEARS NOT TO HAVE ADDRESSED THESE ISSUES EVEN INDIRECTLY, AND ITS TONE GIVES THE IMPRESSION THAT DAOUD EXPECTS TO REMAIN IN THE SADDLE FOR MANY MORE YEARS, WORKING TO ACCOMPLISH THE GOALS HE ENUMERATED IN THIS SPEECH WITHOUT BASIC CHANGES IN STYLE OR CONTENT OF THE REGIME.

08. OFFICIAL TEXT WILL BE FURNISHED TO THE DEPARTMENT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, SPEECHES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975KABUL04639
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750247-0309
From: KABUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750747/aaaabqet.tel
Line Count: 145
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <25 NOV 2003 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT DAOUD'S "JESHYN" SPEECH SUMMARY. PRESIDENT DAOUD OPENED HIS "JESHYN" SEASON CELE-
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, AF, (DAOUD, MOHAMMAD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006